Met Office Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Sunday 31 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Monday 01 Jan 2024

Forecast Issued on Saturday 30 Dec 2023 at 12:08

Confidence: A period of colder conditions with showers most days and some snow likely to accumulate on the higher fell tops. Windy at times. Lower confidence in amount of showers and freezing level for each day over New Year.

Headline for Sunday 31 Dec 2023: A cold, showery day, showers wintery on the fell tops only, strong South-easterly winds, feeling bitterly cold at height.

Mountain weather hazards on Sunday 31 Dec 2023

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales Low Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** Medium Likelihood	**Poor visibility** Medium Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Light snow	Light snow	Dull	Sleet	Sleet	Sleet	Sleet	Sleet
Precipitation probability							
40%	40%	20%	40%	40%	60%	60%	60%

Forecast for Sunday 31 Dec 2023

Weather: A showery day, perhaps a dry period during the morning but likely to remain rather dull and cloudy, showers becoming more frequent and heavier in the afternoon. Showers falling as rain but perhaps sleet or snow at the top of Scafell Pike and Hellvellyn. Strong winds accompanying the showers will make it feel bitterly cold on the fells.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 40%, low cloud in association with showers throughout the day.

Low cloud and visibility: Layers of scattered or broken cloud above 600m throughout the day, cloud will lift at times, perhaps more chance around northern Fells. Visibility will be good out with showers but dipping moderate as showers pass through, perhaps poor or whiteout conditions on the higher summits in sleet showers.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Sunday 31 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	27/34 S	28/35 S	32/40 SE	32/40 S	28/36 SE	20/25 S	16/21 S	16/21 W	18/24 NW
600	24/32 S	25/34 S	29/39 SE	28/38 S	23/32 SE	15/21 S	13/18 SW	12/17 W	13/19 NW
300	10/25 S	11/27 S	13/31 SE	13/31 S	11/27 SE	6/17 S	5/15 SW	6/14 W	6/16 NW
Valley	9/22 S	10/23 SE	12/27 SE	12/26 SE	11/23 SE	6/15 SE	7/16 NW	7/15 NW	6/15 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	0/-7	0/-7	-0/-8	-0/-8	-0/-8	-0/-7	-1/-6	-1/-6	-1/-7
600	2/-4	2/-4	1/-6	1/-6	2/-5	2/-4	1/-4	1/-3	1/-4
300	4/1	4/0	3/-1	3/-1	3/-1	4/1	3/1	3/1	3/0
Valley	7/4	6/3	6/2	5/2	6/2	6/4	6/4	5/3	5/3
Freezing Level*	1000m	900m	900m	900m	900m	900m	900m	900m	900m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Freezing level around the summits of the higher fells, with showers turning wintery at this level, feeling bitterly cold in strong winds and showers. Some accumulations likely on the higher fells.

Forecast for Monday 01 Jan 2024

Weather: Showers during the morning but some bright spells developing, showers wintery above 800m. Mostly dry through the afternoon with some winter sunshine breaking through, cloudier by late afternoon and evening.

Maximum wind: West or Southwesterly 20mph gusts 30mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 70%, low cloud will gather around the summits in showers in the morning, improving to 90% in the afternoon.

Low cloud and visibility: Patchy cloud becoming scattered and lowering to 600m in morning showers with visibility turning moderate for a time. During the afternoon only patchy cloud above 700m and visibility mostly good or very good.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 3 rising to 7 Celsius.
At 800m: Zero Celsius.
Freezing level: 800m

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Saturday 30 December 2023. Location: Catstyecam summit at 12:48. Full report: Constant sleet and rain for all of the daylight hours today, combined with gale-force winds over high ground gave a very challenging day in the fells. Overnight snow settled down to around 400m, however, the freezing level rose dramatically during the morning to above the highest tops meaning that much of today's snow was wet and thawing at all levels. The snowline retreated up to around 500m by the end of the day and much of it has been redistributed on strong SE winds. Snow depth increases with height with drifts up to 50cm in many places. Swirral and Striding edge are in winter condition although a lot of exposed rock is still visible. Further strong winds and wintery showers are forecast tomorrow (with the possibility of whiteout conditions), and the freezing level is expected to be around 800m. Today's wet snow is very likely to freeze to produce a lot more ice. Anyone heading out tomorrow should expect and be prepared for very challenging winter conditions. A full set of waterproofs, extra warm layers, hats and gloves, and equipment including a headtorch, map, and compass are all essential. Microspikes and walking poles are also recommended. For anyone attempting steep and exposed routes, such as the Helvellyn edges, microspikes/crampons, and an ice axe should be carried. Goggles are also strongly recommended for navigating and route finding in challenging conditions. Temperature: plus 2.2 C, Maximum wind speed 58.6 mph, Wind chill: minus 6.8 C, Average wind speed: 42.9 mph.
Issued at: 1208 on Sat 30 Dec 2023

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